



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/019,864	10/16/2002	Ulrich Bittroff	520.1005	8805
23280	7590	12/23/2005		
DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC 485 SEVENTH AVENUE, 14TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018			EXAMINER NGUYEN, QUYNH H	
			ART UNIT 2642	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/019,864

Applicant(s)

BITTROFF ET AL.

Examiner

Quynh H. Nguyen

Art Unit

2642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 29-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 29-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 29, 31-34, 36, 39-46, and 54-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Denker (WO 98/18241).

As to claims 29 and 45-46, Denker teaches a method for establishing a connection from an initiating subscriber (Tom) to a destination subscriber (Mary) in a telecommunication network (Fig. 1, network 100) without the initiating subscriber knowing a permanent identifier of the destination subscriber (page 2, line 34 through page 3, line 2), the method comprising: assigning a first anonymous identifier to the permanent identifier of the destination subscriber using a trust center (page 3, lines 3-17); recognizing the first anonymous identifier as an anonymous identifier and routing the first anonymous identifier to the trust center using an associated active switching center (page 4, line 30 through page 5, line 5); determining the permanent identifier of the destination subscriber from the routed first anonymous identifier and transmitting the determined permanent identifier to the switching center using the trust center (page 4, line 30 through page 5, line 5); and establishing the connection to the destination

Art Unit: 2642

subscriber using the transmitted permanent identifier and the switching center (page 5, lines 11-14).

As to claims 31, 32, and 43, Denker teaches deleting the first anonymous identifier at a predetermined time after the assigning by an input of the destination subscriber, for example, Mary input / control how many times the handle may be used (page 6, lines 18 and 20).

As to claim 33, Denker teaches the permanent identifier of the destination subscriber is capable of being assigned only one anonymous identifier at a time (page 3, lines 1-2 - a conventional telephone number, a spoken utterance, or an encrypted message).

As to claim 34, Denker teaches performing an authorization check before the assigning of the first anonymous identifier (page 6, lines 5-13).

As to claim 36, Denker teaches requesting the assignment of the first anonymous identifier and communicating the assignment of the first anonymous identifier using the Internet (page 5, lines 33-36).

As to claims 39-42, Denker teaches requesting the assignment of the first anonymous identifier and communicating the assignment of the first anonymous identifier, at least one of the requesting and the communicating being performed using a data transmission using a multi-frequency method, short message, electronic mail, voice input and voice output (page 3, lines 1-2; page 5, line 33 through page 6, line 4).

As to claim 44, Denker teaches requesting the assignment of the first anonymous identifier using a dialing by the destination subscriber of a permanent identifier of the

Art Unit: 2642

initiating subscriber and transmitting the first anonymous identifier to the initiating subscriber (page 6, lines 26 through page 7, line 10).

As to claims 54 and 55, Denker teaches the telecommunication network includes a circuit-switched network and the anonymous identifier includes a respective telephone number (page 2, line 28 through page 3, line 2).

As to claim 56, Denker teaches the telecommunications network includes a network for transmitting data including at least one of video data, audio data and textual messages and wherein at least one of the permanent identifier (page 9, lines 3-13).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 30, 35, 37-38, and 49-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Denker (WO 98/18241).

As to claims 30, 37-38 and 49-52, Denker teaches a trust center includes a code server and a service control function (Fig. 1, CCP, processor, database) of the telecommunication network (Fig. 1, network 100) and wherein the routing the anonymous identifier using the switching center and the transmitting the determined permanent identifier to the switching center are performed using a service switching function (page 4, line 30 through page 5, line 5). Denker does not explicitly teach the

telecommunication network includes an intelligent network; transmitting via ISDN-D channel. Intelligent network and ISDN are well known in the art of telecommunication and the advantage of having intelligent network and ISDN are also well known. For example, subscriber can add / delete services very quickly and efficiently.

As to claim 35, Denker does not teach outputting an error message using the trust center when an assignment is not possible. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the above mentioned feature in Denker's system thus making the system more efficient and user friendly by informing the subscriber when there is a discrepancy situation occurred.

5. Claims 47-48 and 53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Denker (WO 98/18241) in view of Solomon et al. (U.S. Patent 4,847,890).

As to claims 47-48, and 53, Denker does not teach the connection to the destination subscriber is a return call and further comprising informing the destination subscriber, using a perceivable signaling, that the return call is being established using an anonymous identifier; and establishing the connection being automatically performed upon a completion of the perceivable signaling after the confirming.

Solomon et al. teaches the connection to the destination subscriber is a return call and further comprising informing the destination subscriber, using a perceivable signaling, that the return call is being established using an anonymous identifier; and establishing the connection being automatically performed upon a completion of the perceivable signaling after the confirming (col. 5, lines 4-47).

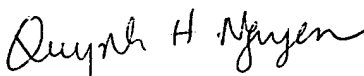
Art Unit: 2642

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature mentioned above, as taught by Solomon, in Denker's system thus making the system more efficient by allowing the subscriber to return call as his or her convenient time.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quynh H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7489. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 6:15 A.M. to 4:45 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Quynh H. Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2642